

28 SEP 1962

PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

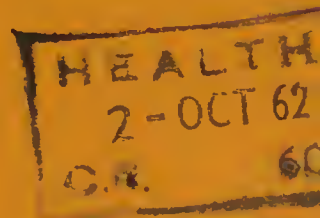
of the

**County**

**Medical Officer of Health  
for Pembrokeshire**



**1961**





# **A N N U A L R E P O R T**

of the

**County**

**Medical Officer of Health  
for Pembrokeshire**

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
HEALTH COMMITTEE OF THE  
PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

*I have the honour to present my ninth annual report. The health statistics for 1961 show appreciable and welcome falls in the still-birth, peri-natal and infant mortality rates as compared with the previous year, but annual fluctuations in mortality rates in a limited population are often no indication of a permanent trend.*

*In recent years, the emphasis in the National Health Service has been on the development of the preventive and domiciliary or community care services. This trend has led to a marked increase in the work of the County Health Department, and certain of the staff, including myself, have had difficulty in giving adequate consideration to the various problems. In this County, a serious and determined attempt has been made to provide many of the additional required services, but much remains to be done. The Minister of Health has repeatedly stressed the need for close liaison between the various sections of the National Health Service including the hospitals and local health authorities such as the County Council. Locally, the latter relationship has been much improved by the appointment of Mr. D. W. Evans, the Chairman of the Health Committee, as a member of the Welsh Hospital Board.*

*There were a number of specific developments during 1961: considerable progress was possible with the scheme for the giving of a fourth dose of poliomyelitis vaccine to school-children between the ages of five and twelve years; further progress was made with the diphtheria immunisation arrangements, especially booster injections; a special schedule of the routine immunisation of children against infectious diseases was agreed with the general practitioners; an expansion of the child guidance service was possible; a part-time junior training centre for severely subnormal children was established in temporary premises at Haverfordwest; and the modernisation of the Narberth Clinic was completed.*

*In 1961, S. J. Noel-Brown & Co., Ltd., Consultants to Industry and Local Government, completed an "Organisation and Methods Review" of the department. The Consultants reported that the department was operating in a very economical manner and recommended only minor changes.*

*On the 15th April, Miss E. J. James, the County Orthopaedic Sister, retired after twenty four years of conscientious and able service with this Authority. It is regretted that she died after a short period of retirement. During the year, I was also sorry to lose the services of Miss P. E. A. Porter, the Mental Health Visitor, who retired because of ill-health, and Mrs. Panton, the Occupational Therapist, who resigned for personal reasons.*

*I continue to be grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued support and interest. My thanks are also due to the staff of the County Health Department, including the nurses, and the training centre and ambulance personnel, for their efforts during the year. As in past years, a considerable encouragement has been the helpful assistance from the family doctors and local hospital consultants. The two district medical officers of health made important contributions to the implementation of a number of schemes, particularly the B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis.*

*I am,*

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

*Your obedient Servant,*

*D. J. DAVIES,*

*County Medical Officer of Health.*

*County Health Department,  
Haverfordwest.*

*30 August, 1962.*

COUNTY OF PEMBROKE  
HEALTH COMMITTEE  
(as on 31st December, 1961)

*Chairman:*

Councillor D. W. Evans

*Vice-Chairman:*

County Alderman B. G. Howells, O.B.E.

*County Aldermen:*

James John	Rev. Mathias Davies
T. R. Joseph	Mrs. A. Norman
L. J. Meyler, O.B.E.	D. H. Roberts
S. J. Morris	

*County Councillors:*

E. Anthony, M.B.E.	J. A. Meyrick Owen
T. W. H. Byard	W. H. Symmons
A. Edwards	R. T. Webb
J. M. James	R. Williams
O. G. John	Rev. D. G. Stephens
C. R. Adams	Rev. John Thomas
D. S. Grey	W. Thomas, C.B.
Rev. W. Harry	J. R. Williams

*Co-opted Members:*

Miss Nancy Thomas	Mrs. M. Picton Thomas
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*Local Medical Committee Representatives:*

Dr. J. A. K. Douglas, Dr. W. F. T. George, Dr. P. R. E. Williams

*Pembrokeshire Federation of Women's Institutes Representatives:*

Mrs. M. Hawes, Mrs. M. Ramsden

*West Wales Hospital Management Committee Representatives:*

J. F. Green, Esq., Dr. M. Rowland Evans,  
County Alderman R. S. Wade



# STAFF OF COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1961

## *County Medical Officer of Health and Principal School*

### *Medical Officer:*

D. J. Davies, M.B.E., B.Sc., M.D., B.S., D.P.H.

*Deputy County Medical Officer of Health and Deputy Principal*

### *School Medical Officer:*

T. D. Lewis, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

### *District Medical Officers of Health:*

(These Officers devote up to 25 per cent. of their time to  
County Council duties):

W. J. Y. Speedy, M.B., B.Ch., L.R.C.P. & S., L.R.F.P. & S., D.P.H.

P. E. M. Bowen, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.H., D.P.H.

### *Assistant County Medical Officers and School Medical Officers:*

F. J. Harrison, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. (Full-time)

M. Lawlor, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.C.H., D.P.H. (Part-time)

Joan Nichols, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.H.

(Part-time employment on occasional sessional basis).

### *Chief Dental Officer and Principal School Dental Officer:*

O. C. Jenkins, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.), D.D.S. (Toronto).

### *School Dental Officers:*

D. G. James, L.D.S., R.C.S.

R. R. Lewis, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Commenced 2.1.61).

### *County Nursing Officer:*

Miss J. M. Young, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N. Cert., H.V. Cert.

### *County Orthopaedic Sister:*

Miss E. J. James, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (Resigned 15.4.61).

### *Senior Orthopaedic Physiotherapist:*

Mrs. E. A. Stokes, M.S.C.P., Orth. Cert (Commenced 4.4.61).

### *Mental Health Visitor:*

Miss P. E. A. Porter, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (Resigned 31.5.61).

### *Tuberculosis and Problem Families Health Visitor:*

Miss S. M. Morgan, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.



*County Home Help Organiser:*

Miss M. R. F. Collins

*County Ambulance Officer:*

P. J. Hunt

*Speech Therapist:*

Miss M. Thompson (part-time).

Mrs. D. E. Williams, L.C.S.T. (Part-time) (Commenced 11.9.61).

*Occupational Therapist:*

Mrs. I. R. Panton, M.A.O.T. (Part-time) (Resigned 27.4.61).

*Consultant Child Psychiatrists:*

J. MacDonald, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.M. (Commenced 1.7.61).

N. E. James, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.P.

*Educational Psychologist:*

C. B. E. James, B.A., B.Ed., A.B.P.S.S.

*Senior Psychiatric Social Worker:*

B. P. Vittle, B.A., A.A.P.S.W.

*Psychiatric Social Worker:*Mrs. J. M. B. Harries, B.A., A.A.P.S.W. (Part-time)  
(Resigned 27.3.61).*Home Teacher of the Mentally Sub-normal:*

Miss A. Jenkins (Commenced 4.9.61).

*Chief Clerk:*

O. M. Shearn, A.C.I.S.

*Other Nursing Staff (as at 31st December, 1961):*

- 7 Health Visitors and School Nurses.
- 29 District Nurse/Midwife/Health Visitor/School Nurses.
- 13 District Nurse/Midwives.
- 1 District Nurse/Health Visitor.
- 8 District Nurses.
- 2 Clinic Nurses.

*Home Helps:*

168 Occasional Home Helps.

COUNTY COUNCIL COMMITTEES  
(concerned with matters of Health)

1. HEALTH COMMITTEE
  - (a) Nursing Sub-Committee;
  - (b) General Purposes Sub-Committee;
  - (c) Ambulance Sub-Committee;
  - (d) Tuberculosis Care and After-Care Sub-Committee;
  - (e) Mental Health Sub-Committee.
2. PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE
3. EDUCATION COMMITTEE responsible for School Health Service.

## SECTION I

### VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1961

#### 1. AREA

The area of the County, including inland water, is 393,003 acres.

#### 2. POPULATION

1911—By Census	...	...	...	...	90,014
1921—By Census	...	...	...	...	91,580
1931—By Census	...	...	...	...	86,020
1938—Estimated Mid-year	...	...	...	...	83,200
1945—Estimated Mid-year	...	...	...	...	82,690
1951—By Census	...	...	...	...	90,740
1953—Estimated Mid-year	...	...	...	...	92,090
1954—Estimated Mid-year	...	...	...	...	92,750
1955—Estimated Mid-year	...	...	...	...	93,800
1956—Estimated Mid-year	...	...	...	...	94,260
1957—Estimated Mid-year	...	...	...	...	93,670
1958—Estimated Mid-year	...	...	...	...	93,700
1959—Estimated Mid-year	...	...	...	...	94,600
1960—Estimated Mid-Year	...	...	...	...	94,580
1961—Estimated Mid-Year	...	...	...	...	93,380

#### 3. FINANCIAL

The product of a penny rate for the financial year 1961/62 was £3,504.

Rateable value of the County on the 1st April, 1961, was £890,428.

#### 4. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

The completion of the construction of industrial projects, the Esso Refinery and the British Petroleum Oil Terminal, on the shores of Milford Haven, resulted in an appreciable increase in unemployment, particularly in the Milford Haven and Pembroke Dock areas, and a limited movement of population from the County. This latter trend is reflected in the 1961 population figures which show a definite reduction as compared with the previous year.

The birth rate was less than in the previous year but remained higher than the rate for England and Wales. The birth rates were appreciably higher in the urban than in the rural areas. The number of male births considerably exceeded the female. As compared

with the previous year, there was a welcome reduction in the still-birth infant mortality and peri-natal mortality rates but these remained above the national rates. A septic abortion was the cause of the one maternal death. Of the 25 neo-natal deaths—in the first month of life—eight were due to prematurity, five to congenital abnormalities, six to pneumonia and the remainder to various causes such as cerebral haemorrhage, atelectasis and anoxia.

The death rate remained slightly above the national figure but this may have been due to a higher proportion of the local population being in the older age groups, which is probably a result of the influx of retired people into the coastal resorts, particularly in the south of the County. Degenerative diseases of the heart and circulatory system including vascular lesions of the nervous system, and cancer continued to be the main causes of death. There were 191 deaths from cancer as compared with 185 in the previous year. The local death rate from this disease in 1961 was slightly below the national figure. There were 27 deaths from cancer of the lung in 1961 and 28 in 1960: the local death rate for this condition was considerably below the national figure. There was a welcome decrease in the number of deaths from accidents: motor accident deaths were nine as compared with fourteen in the previous year and other accident deaths decreased from 38 in 1960 to 23 in 1961.

##### 5. (i) DETAILED STATISTICS

Live Births				Male	Female	Totals
Legitimate	...	...	...	827	760	1,587
Illegitimate	...	...	...	42	37	79
(4.74 per cent. of live births)						
Totals				869	797	1,666
Still Births						
Legitimate	...	...	...	18	17	35
Illegitimate	...	...	...	4	2	6
Totals				22	19	41
Live birth rate per 1,000 population				...	...	17.83
						(Crude)
						18.36
						(Adjusted)

Still-birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	24.02
Total live and still births	... ..	1,707
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	... ..	38
Infant Mortality Rates:		
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	...	22.81
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate		
live births	... ..	23.31
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate		
live births	... ..	12.66
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per		
1,000 total live births)	... ..	15.00
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per		
1,000 total live births)	... ..	13.20
Peri-natal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under		
1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)		36.90
Maternal Mortality (including abortion):		
Number of deaths	... ..	1
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	... ..	0.58

## (ii) CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE :

Causes of Death	All ages		0—		1—		5—		15—		25—		45—		65—		75—	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1—Tuberculosis—Respiratory ...	12	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	5	1	2	—	1	—
2—Tuberculosis—Other ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
3—Syphilitic Disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4—Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6—Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7—Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8—Measles ...	1	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9—Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ...	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach ...	20	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	4	4	7	5
11—Malignant Neoplasm—Lungs Bronchus ...	25	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	12	—	10	2	2	—
12—Malignant Neoplasm—Breast ...	—	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	6	6	8	2
13—Malignant Neoplasm—Uterus ...	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	12	12	13	—
14—Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ...	47	49	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	2	—	13	—	15	16	1	—
15—Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ...	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
16—Diabetes ...	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
17—Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ...	80	96	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32	34	30	52
18—Coronary Disease—Angina ...	148	89	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	48	17	62	31	35	41
19—Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	6	4	1	7
20—Other Heart Disease ...	79	76	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	9	18	11	48	55
21—Other Circulatory Disease ...	34	34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	2	12	10	18	22
22—Influenza ...	13	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	5	3	5	6	1
23—Pneumonia ...	15	21	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	2	5	7	4	7
24—Bronchitis ...	31	5	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	11	1	12	—	7	4
25—Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	2	—
26—Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
27—Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
28—Nephritis or Nephrosis ...	9	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	6	2
29—Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
30—Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31—Congenital Malformation ...	7	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32—Other Defined and Ill-Defined diseases ...	34	58	6	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	8	—	—	—	—
33—Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	9	—	10	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	8	9	12	26
34—All Other Accidents ...	9	14	1	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	1	3	2	8
35—Suicide ...	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
36—Homicide and Operations of War ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All Causes ...	622	543	21	17	6	4	3	6	7	2	21	15	154	99	203	144	207	256



(iii) DISTRICT COUNCIL, PEMBROKE COUNTY AND NATIONAL COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS (USING APPROPRIATE AREA COMPARABILITY FACTORS)

	Area in Acres	Estimated mid-year Population for 1961	Live Births		Deaths		Infant Mortality		No. of Maternal Deaths and Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births
			No.	Adjusted Rate per 1,000	No.	Adjusted Rate per 1,000	Rate per 1,000 Live	No.	
URBAN									
Fishguard & Goodwick U.D.C.	1,841	4,850	66	14.28	72	15.43	3	45.45	—
Haverfordwest M.B.	1,404	8,690	218	22.82	124	14.83	3	13.76	—
Narberth U.D.C.	122	960	16	16.83	23	23.47	—	—	—
Neyland U.D.C.	484	2,140	40	19.25	33	15.42	—	—	—
Milford Haven U.D.C.	1,060	12,790	259	20.25	134	15.08	10	38.61	—
Pembroke M.B.	4,679	12,730	274	22.17	162	12.72	3	10.95	—
Tenby M.B.	1,090	4,500	68	15.26	58	10.94	1	14.70	—
TOTAL	10,680	46,660	941	20.16	606	14.02	20	21.25	—
RURAL									
Cemaes R.D.C.	79,576	8,650	124	16.62	138	12.88	2	16.13	—
Haverfordwest R.D.C.	173,650	21,910	378	17.25	238	12.16	12	31.74	—
Narberth R.D.C.	80,237	9,940	129	14.56	125	11.69	3	23.25	1 7.46
Pembroke R.D.C.	48,860	6,220	94	16.02	58	9.41	1	10.64	—
TOTAL	382,323	46,720	725	16.45	559	11.96	18	24.82	1 1.34
Whole County	393,003	93,380	1,666	18.36	1,165	12.96	38	22.81	1 0.58
England and Wales	...	...	...	17.40	...	12.00	...	21.40	0.67



## SECTION 2

### LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL UNDER THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT

#### 1. CARE OF EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND CHILDREN UNDER SCHOOL AGE.

##### *Expectant and Nursing Mothers*

As in previous years, the medical ante-natal care outside the hospitals was undertaken by the general practitioners with the exception of the monthly local authority clinic at Tenby. Ante-natal clinics, staffed only by midwives, continued to be held at Hakin, Milford Haven, Neyland, Pembroke Dock and Pembroke. There were 1765 attendances of expectant mothers at the clinics during 1961.

The personal record or co-operation card for maternity patients, introduced in 1960, was used by most of the local authority midwives and general practitioners in 1961. The busy hospital staffs appear to have had some difficulty in entering their findings on the cards.

The routine weighing and blood testing of expectant mothers are encouraged by the local authority nursing staff and there is some evidence that these measures were increasingly implemented in 1961.

Limited but definite progress was made in the provision of mothercraft teaching and in instruction in relaxation techniques and ante-natal exercises. Group classes were held at Haverfordwest and Tenby and some midwives in the rural and certain urban areas gave individual instruction to expectant mothers in their homes. Both group classes and individual instruction are being encouraged.

The number of hospital maternity beds in the County was inadequate to meet the demand, especially at Haverfordwest. In the booking of the normal maternity beds at St. Thomas' Hospital, the County Nursing Officer adopted the recommended criteria for selection of the patients. Difficulty was experienced throughout the County in persuading mothers in their fifth and subsequent confinements to accept confinement in hospital. Such mothers are particularly liable to complications.

### *Infant and Child Welfare*

There were no major changes during 1961. After a series of delays, the extensive renovation of the Narberth Clinic was completed. The Clinic at Hakin is too small to meet the demand, particularly from the large council house estates, and it is disappointing that, for financial reasons, the County Council has postponed the erection of a new Clinic in that area.

During the year, there were 12,774 and 3,963 attendances of infants and children at the infant welfare clinics and weighing centres respectively: in 1960 the figures were 11,274 and 4,741.

The measures for the early detection and treatment of partially deaf children were continued. In 1961, the health visitors and hospital medical staff referred thirteen pre-school children for special hearing tests: one of these children was referred to the Audiology Unit of the Royal Nose, Throat and Ear Hospital, for further investigation.

The routine testing of infants to detect phenyl-ketonuria failed to reveal a definite case during the year.

### *Care of Premature Infants*

There were 118 premature live births during the year: 31 at home and the remainder in hospital. Thirteen of the infants died: eight during the first twenty-four hours of life. Ten deaths occurred in hospital and three at home.

There is a small unit for premature babies at the County Hospital, Haverfordwest. Equipment for the home care of premature babies is available in the County: it was requested on one occasion only.

### *Distribution of National Welfare Foods and Dried Milk*

The administration of the scheme continued to be undertaken by the Welfare Foods Section of the department at Willesden House, Haverfordwest. From the 1st June, 1961, in accordance with the Ministry of Health instructions, charges of 1/- per bottle for Cod Liver Oil, 6d for each packet of Vitamins A and D Tablets, and 1/6d per bottle of Orange Juice were made: previously the former two commodities were free and the latter was 5d. per bottle. Supplies continued to be free for needy persons receiving national assistance payments. The new charges were followed by a reduction of approximately 55 per cent. in the demand for these supplies.

As in previous years the public spirit of the voluntary workers, who continued the major part of the distribution of welfare foods in the County, deserved commendation. The Clerk at the Office of the District Medical Officer, Tenby, and many of the district nurses and health visitors, also made a valuable contribution.

Branded dried milk tins and packets are sold at the clinics and many weighing centres at a price well below the normal retail figure.

The following statistics illustrate the extent of distribution work in the County:

	1960	1961
Number of distribution points ... ..	62	63
National Dried Milk tins distributed ...	32,780	28,803
Orange Juice bottles distributed ...	42,555	27,807
Cod Liver Oil bottles distributed ...	5,054	4,079
Vitamin tablet packages distributed ...	3,613	3,100
Branded Dried Milk tins and packets distributed ... ..	45,570	47,480

### *Dental Care*

Owing to the shortage of dental officers, only limited progress was made with the scheme for the dental care of expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school age children. There was a slight increase in the attendances at dental clinics during 1961 as compared with the previous year. Many expectant and nursing mothers are referred by nurses and doctors to private dental surgeons but some difficulty was experienced in obtaining dental treatment for such mothers at Fishguard and Tenby.

The following statistics are of interest:

	Expectant and Nursing Mothers	Pre- school age Children
Total number of patients inspected ... ..	79	98
Number referred for dental treatment ...	69	73
Number actually treated (completed) ...	64	51
Number of general anaesthetic cases ...	12	13
Number of fillings ... ..	18	41
Number of teeth extracted ... ..	89	109
Number supplied with artificial dentures ...	11	—
Attendances at treatment centres ... ..	180	307

### *Family Planning*

As in previous years, the clinics of the Pembrokeshire branch of the Family Planning Association continued to be held at the County Health Department, Haverfordwest. Advice on sterility and sex problems in marriage is available in addition to family planning guidance.

### *Care of Unmarried Mothers and their children*

The social work for unmarried mothers and their children continued to be undertaken by the Moral Welfare Workers of the St. David's Diocesan Moral Welfare Committee. During the year, twelve unmarried mothers from this County were admitted to hostels at Hereford, Cardiff, and Penarth. The individual problems of each mother and child were considered in the determination of the length of stay at the hostel.

## *2. Domiciliary Midwifery*

Despite difficulties of recruitment, it was possible to maintain an adequate domiciliary midwifery service in the County during the year. At the end of the year, 42 district nurse/midwives and district nurse/health visitor/midwives were employed: this was equivalent to 8.4 full-time midwives.

Forty-one of the midwives have been trained to administer gas and air analgesia and are equipped with the necessary apparatus. Five of these midwives also use trilene analgesia but most of the midwives favour the use of nitrous oxide (gas). In 1961, trilene analgesia was used in thirty confinements.

Seven district midwives attended approved refresher courses during the year. Further efforts were made to encourage the liaison between the family doctors, the district and hospital midwives and the local hospital medical obstetric staff. It is hoped that the use of the personal record and co-operation card for maternity patients will facilitate the liaison.

The demand for hospital confinements continued to be heavy. The proportion of such confinements was 65.4 per cent. as compared with 64.1 in 1960.

The County Nursing Officer is the Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives.



The following statistics for 1961 are of interest:

Number of live and still births	...	...	...	...	1,707
Number of such births in hospital (including transfers from other areas)	...	...	...	...	1,116
Number of such births at home (including transfers from other areas)	...	...	...	...	591
Number of home births attended by County Council nurses (doctor not present)	...	...	...	...	466
Number of home births attended by County Council nurses (doctor present at birth)	...	...	...	...	111
Number of home births attended by private midwives	...	...	...	...	5
Number of still births in hospital	...	...	...	...	30
Number of still births at home	...	...	...	...	11
Number of midwives employed by the County Council	...	...	...	...	42
Number of hospital midwives in practice on 31st December, 1961	...	...	...	...	20
Number of midwives in private practice on 31st December, 1961	...	...	...	...	1
Number of maternal deaths in hospital	...	...	...	...	1
Number of maternal deaths at home	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of mothers who received gas and air analgesia at home	...	...	...	...	377
Number of mothers who received pethidine from nurses during confinement at home	...	...	...	...	287
Number of mothers who received trilene from nurses during confinement at home	...	...	...	...	30
Number of inspections of midwives by County Nursing officer:	...	...	...	...	

	Routine	Special
Hospitals	25	2
County district nurse/midwives	75	123
Private midwives	—	—
Private nursing homes	—	—

### 3. HEALTH VISITING

At the end of the year, there were seven full-time health visitors, twenty-nine district nurse/midwife/health visitors and one district nurse/health visitor on the Staff. All the health visitors also act as school nurses.

It was necessary to appoint an additional health visitor for the

Pembroke Borough area: Mrs. M. Edwards commenced duty at Pembroke Dock on the 1st September. A more adequate health visiting service has resulted. One health visitor continued her intensive social work with problem families. During the year, she was able to assist fifteen such families. Progress was inevitably slow but there is evidence that thirteen of these families benefitted from her help. Owing to ill-health, Miss P. E. A. Porter, the Mental Health Visitor, had to resign on the 31st May: she had specialised in recent years in the social care of subnormal and severely subnormal persons and her conscientious work was much appreciated by the patients, their parents and her colleagues.

In-service training in mental health work, including child guidance work, was arranged at Haverfordwest, Tenby and Milford Haven. The Tutor was Mr. B. Vittle, the Senior Psychiatric Social Worker, and subjects discussed included personality development, problems of families under stress of mental illness, and child behaviour difficulties. Twenty-seven health visitors attended an average of nine half-day sessions.

In this County, health visitors are not attached to particular general medical practitioners or groups of practitioners, but they are encouraged to co-operate fully with them. The position is being kept under review and developments in other Counties are being studied. There has been a slow but steady increase in recent years in the number of patients referred for health visitor follow-up on discharge from hospital.

No health visitor's training scholarship was granted in 1961. The following statistics of health visiting work in 1961 are of interest: —

Number of visits to children under one year of age	...	9,630
Number of visits to children between one and two years of age	... ..	5,867
Number of visits to children between two and five years of age	... ..	7,910

#### 4. HOME NURSING

At the end of 1961, the following groups of nurses were employed on home nursing duties in the County: —

Home nurse/midwife/health visitors	... ..	29
Home nurse/midwives	... ..	13
Home nurse/health visitors	... ..	1
Home Nurses	... ..	8

As in previous years, the demand for home nursing continued to increase. A considerable proportion of those treated were elderly chronic sick patients, but during the year an increasing number of younger patients were referred for home nursing on discharge from hospital.

There were a number of minor developments during the year: a state enrolled nurse was successfully employed for home nursing duties in one of the urban areas and the problem of nursing a number of incontinent patients at home was eased by the supply of specially prepared pads and the replacement of heavy mackintosh sheeting by a thin plastic substitute.

By arrangement with the Marie Curie Memorial Foundation, financial assistance was given to six patients suffering from cancer, who required night nursing, additional bed linen, and extra nourishment.

The following statistics give an indication of the home nursing work during the year:

Number of home nursing visits to children under five years							
of age	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,369
Number of home visits to persons over 65 years of age							
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39,869
Total number of home nursing visits							
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	84,619
Number of medical cases treated							
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,468
Number of surgical cases treated							
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,171
Number of tuberculous cases treated							
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Number of miscellaneous cases treated							
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,197
Total number of patients treated							
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,896

## 5. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

There were a number of important developments during the year.

On the 12th August, 1961, the Minister of Health, on the advice of the Joint Committee on Poliomyelitis Vaccine, announced that, in view of the greater risk of infection to which children in school are exposed, a re-inforcing fourth dose of poliomyelitis vaccine should be offered to children when they enter school (normally at the age of five) and to school children between five and twelve years of age. An interval of at least one year between the third and fourth injections was recommended. During the early summer months considerable priority was given to this extension of the vaccination against poliomyelitis scheme, and, at the same time, publicity con-



cerning outbreaks of the disease in other areas led to an appreciable increase in the demand for vaccination. With the assistance of temporary clerical and medical staff, it was possible to give the fourth injection to approximately seven thousand children in the County. In the Autumn, owing to a shortage of the Salk vaccine, it was necessary to suspend further fourth injections. At the same time, the Minister of Health announced that the Sabin Vaccine (a live vaccine taken by mouth) would be introduced for vaccination against poliomyelitis, but no supplies were available locally in 1961. In the last two months of the year, the restricted supplies of Salk vaccine were reserved for second doses, third doses (postponed from seven to eleven months after the second doses), expectant mothers, people going abroad and other special priority groups, and first doses for babies and other children not yet immunised.

On the 31st December, 1961, the poliomyelitis vaccination statistics in respect of persons up to forty years of age and of certain priority groups were as follows: —

Number of premises used as vaccination centres during the year ... ..	111
Number of persons (including children) who completed two injections in 1961: —	
Those born in the years 1933-42 ... ..	882
Those born in the years 1943-61 ... ..	2,730
Those born before 1933, but under 40 years ...	2,271
Others ... ..	50
Total ...	5,933
Number of children and young persons who completed three injections in 1961 ... ..	4,483
Number of children who completed 4 injections in 1961	7,018
Total number of persons (including children) at 31st December, 1961, who had received two injections since the commencement of the scheme ... ..	34,018
Total number of children and young persons who had received three injections ... ..	27,165

Appreciable progress was made during the year with the scheme for immunisation against diphtheria. Minor outbreaks of the disease in certain other areas during the early part of the year caused an increased local demand for immunisation. An increasing num-

ber of 'booster' immunisations against diphtheria were given in the junior schools of the County. It was, however, necessary to curtail this work during the afore-mentioned extensions of the poliomyelitis vaccination scheme in the summer months, and during the extensive influenza epidemic in the schools in November and December. In 1961, the Local Medical Committee, the Medical Staff Committee of the County Hospital, and the West Wales Hospital Management Committee, agreed to arrangements for the issue of tetanus immunisation record cards to injured patients treated in the casualty departments of Pembrokeshire hospitals. These cards have the dual purpose of referring patients to their family doctors for active immunisation against tetanus and for recording details of passive immunisation.

On the 13th September, the Minister of Health, on the advice of the Standing Medical Advisory Committee, issued a circular letter and memorandum on the use of combined antigens and the timing of various immunisation procedures in childhood. Two alternative schedules of immunisation were included. After consultation with the Local Medical Committee, it was agreed to adopt Schedule "P" in this County, but detailed implementation of the new schedule was postponed until the modifications necessitated by the introduction of the Sabin oral vaccine against poliomyelitis could be made. The general use of combined antigens—diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), and tetanus or diphtheria and tetanus—was introduced into the clinics in October. On the 26th September, detailed notes were sent to general practitioners on the use of influenza vaccine for the protection, during the Autumn, of special groups, such as patients with chronic heart or chronic pulmonary or chronic renal disease or diabetes. The routine use of influenza vaccine for all sections of the population was not recommended by a Sub-Committee of the Joint Committee on Poliomyelitis Vaccine who studied the use of the influenza vaccine in 1961.

The progress in 1961 with the schemes for immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough and vaccination against smallpox is evidenced by the following statistics:—

	1961	1960	1959
Number of children immunised against			
diphtheria           ...       ...       ...       ...	1,937	1,646	1,245
Number of children who received a booster			
dose of diphtheria prophylactic       ...       ...	1,797	1,233	515

Number of successful primary vaccinations					
against smallpox notified	...	...	888	902	728
Number of re-vaccinations notified	...	...	173	163	106
Number of children immunised against					
whooping cough	...	...	...	1,262	1,290
				1,128	

The assistance of the general practitioners, the district medical officers of health, and the medical, nursing, and clerical staff of the department in the implementation of vaccination and immunisation schemes was much appreciated.

## 6. AMBULANCE SERVICE

There were no major changes during the year. Considerable progress was made with the erection of a County Ambulance Headquarters, including garage accommodation. Throughout the year, the County Ambulance Officer directed the service from a temporary office, and, despite the difficulties, including a lack of central garage accommodation, it was possible to maintain a reasonable service. With the kind co-operation of the Fire Brigade Committee and the Chief Fire Officer, a combined fire and ambulance control room operated at the Fire Service Headquarters, Haverfordwest. Although there was an appreciable reduction of 2,611 in the number of patients carried by ambulances as compared with the previous year, the demands on the service continued to be heavy. Ambulance transport was provided for 23,995 patients, the second highest annual total since the inception of the service in 1948. The total mileage of ambulances and sitting case cars in 1961 was the lowest figure since 1952: the total was 321,993 which was 7,758 less than in 1960.

There were a number of problems during the year. The heavy influx of visitors in the south of the County, with the resultant increase in accidents and other emergencies, necessitated the placing of an additional ambulance at Tenby. 1961 was notable for the number of drowning accidents on the coast: there were five deaths from drowning and five patients recovered after artificial respiration. The ambulance personnel are trained in methods of artificial respiration, including 'mouth to mouth' breathing. The general experience in local drowning accidents is that a doctor or a person experienced in first aid, who is on the beach at the time of the accident, commences artificial respiration but ambulance personnel sometimes arrive in time to help or continue the process. The recent efforts to provide life-saving facilities on the beaches in the

County and to promote the intensive teaching of methods of artificial respiration, especially the 'mouth to mouth' breathing, to older school-children and adults throughout the County, are welcomed. The County Ambulance Officer has helped considerably with the latter efforts. Each ambulance is equipped with a bellows resuscitator, a suction apparatus operated by a foot pump, and a cylinder of oxygen.

The County Ambulance Officer and the County Medical Officer of Health assisted during the year with the preparation of the medical and ambulance aspects of the Emergency Plan of the Port of Milford Haven. The Milford Haven Conservancy Board published the plan in November, 1961. The Medical Officer of the Esso Refinery kindly arranged for the County Ambulance Service to participate in a Fire Services exercise at the Esso Refinery on the 2nd July, 1961, and to test the major accident and emergency ambulance and first aid arrangements.

Radio-telephony continued to be very helpful in the control of the ambulance service, particularly in directing ambulances, which are away from their stations, to accidents, other emergencies, and late requests for normal ambulance transport. In the opinion of the County Ambulance Officer, a considerable saving in mileage has followed the use of radio-telephony since the 25th May, 1960.

The following 1961 statistics of the Ambulance Service proper are of interest: —

Station	Patients		Total	Miles Travelled	Average Miles per case
	Stretcher	Sitting	No. of Patients		
Haverfordwest No. 1	1,055	2,849	3,904	37,393	9.6
Haverfordwest No. 2	466	1,835	2,301	24,521	10.6
Haverfordwest No. 3	148	1,619	1,767	46,731	26.4
(Long dist. ambulance)					
Milford Haven	251	3,770	4,021	26,162	6.5
Pembroke Dock	628	2,608	3,236	37,006	11.4
Tenby	461	1,671	2,132	24,499	11.5
Fishguard	386	2,640	3,026	34,618	11.5
Cardiganshire	18	10	28	692	24.8
Carmarthenshire	6	6	12	434	36.2
Totals	3,419	17,008	20,427	232,056	11.36



The following figures illustrate the use of the County Ambulance service, with the exception of the Sitting Case Car Service, since the first full year of the National Health Service.

Year	Patients	Miles	Average Miles per Case
1949 ...	7,023	148,261	21.11
1950 ...	9,516	186,007	19.54
1951 ...	12,086	230,361	19.06
1952 ...	12,540	220,296	17.57
1953 ...	14,877	270,762	18.20
1954 ...	16,690	280,458	16.80
1955 ...	16,177	284,720	17.60
1956 ...	18,124	280,542	15.48
1957 ...	18,741	268,017	14.30
1958 ...	18,085	264,678	14.74
1959 ...	17,913	234,083	13.06
1960 ...	22,294	255,472	11.46
1961 ...	20,427	232,056	11.36

#### *Sitting Case Car Service*

This service is provided by a large number of private car proprietors throughout the County who apply for inclusion on the approved list. The payments for the hire of these cars are based on the mileage and waiting time.

The following statistics of the sitting case car service since 1953 are of interest: —

Year	Journeys	Patients	Miles
1953 ...	1,915	2,762	58,975
1954 ...	2,383	3,540	68,060
1955 ...	3,009	4,410	82,344
1956 ...	2,594	3,918	78,942
1957 ...	2,944	4,535	108,142
1958 ...	2,674	4,851	96,319
1959 ...	2,898	5,191	116,525
1960 ...	2,025	3,312	74,279
1961 ...	2,446	3,608	91,063

### *Rail Transport of Patients*

In 1961, 76 patients travelled by rail as compared with 68 in the previous year. The use of diesel trains on certain routes prevented the transport of a number of stretcher patients by rail.

## 7. PREVENTION, CARE AND AFTER-CARE OF ILLNESS

The important mental health work, which is part of the above-named service, is described later in this report.

### *Tuberculosis*

The detailed statistics are given in the third section of this report. There was a small decrease in the number of new notifications as compared with the previous year. As stated in the report for 1960, it is essential that preventive measures should be continued. A local mass radiography service was maintained in the County by the Welsh Hospital Board. Regular visits were arranged to the more populated areas. During the year, 4827 persons attended the unit and three new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were detected.

On the advice of the Chest Physician, the County Council supplied extra nourishment, in the form of 34,872 pints of milk, to tuberculous patients during 1961.

The B.C.G. Vaccination scheme for the thirteen year age group made slow progress during the Autumn term, because of the extensive outbreak of influenza among school-children, and, in certain secondary and grammar schools, the 1961 programme had to be postponed until the Spring term of 1962. Thus in 1961, only 579 children, including 101 contacts, were vaccinated against tuberculosis as compared with 1,024 in 1960. The British Glaxo freeze dried vaccine was used exclusively. In accordance with the Welsh Board of Health Circular 6/61 of the 30th January, 1961, the possible extension of the routine B.C.G. Vaccination scheme for children between ten and thirteen was considered, but, on the advice of Dr. D. Llewelyn Davies, the Chest Physician, it was decided that the risk of tuberculosis infection during later school life in this County did not justify at present any reduction in the age for B.C.G. Vaccination.

### *Health Education*

Only limited progress was possible during the year. The County Council continues to subscribe to the Central Council for Health Education, and obtains much useful publicity material, including posters and leaflets, from this service. A number of health education displays were held in clinics and special emphasis was given to home safety, dental health, the need for vaccination and immunisation against certain diseases in childhood, and the relation of cancer of the lung to smoking. Health visitors were encouraged to hold group discussions on health matters at the infant welfare clinics.

The problem of publicising the connection between tobacco smoking and lung cancer continued to receive local consideration. Suitable posters were displayed at the Secondary and Grammar Schools and a number of appropriate leaflets were distributed to children at their schools and to members of Youth Clubs. The effect of these measures was probably very limited as it is difficult to arouse the concern of young people for the apparently distant future.

### *Provision of Home Nursing Equipment*

There were no changes in the scheme. The ten distribution centres, staffed mainly by Red Cross or St. John personnel, were continued. The main items distributed were rubber or plastic sheeting, air rings, bed rests, bed pans, urinals, wheel chairs and walking aids. The demand for wheel chairs was heavy during the summer months. All home nursing equipment is loaned free of charge.

### *Chiropody*

The County Council did not provide a direct service during 1961 but made a grant of £380 to the Pembrokeshire Old People's Welfare Committee for the financial year 1961/62, so that the voluntary chiropody service for elderly persons could be maintained and extended. At the end of 1961, approximately six hundred elderly persons were receiving regular chiropody under these arrangements. A number of patients were treated in their own homes particularly in the rural areas. The demands on the voluntary chiropody services are increasing and the County Council has agreed to make an increased grant for the next financial year.



## 8. DOMESTIC HELP: HOME HELP SERVICE

There was a slight increase in the total number of householders provided with home help as compared with the previous year. The demand from the rural areas continued as in other years to be appreciably less than in the urban districts. The recruitment of home helps was generally satisfactory except in the Tenby and Saunders-foot areas where hotels and guest houses compete for available domestic staff in the summer months.

The service continued to assist a considerable number of frail ambulant persons and chronic sick patients. Without the home help assistance, a number of these people would have required admission to either Part III accommodation or a hospital. In many such cases, neighbours acted as home helps, and, by working staggered hours, were able to give reasonably adequate care. Applications from maternity patients decreased during the year. It appears that the increased home confinement grants enabled a number of such patients to make private arrangements for home help.

The requests for home help included 156 cases in which the Organiser was able to solve the domestic difficulties without the provision of domestic help.

As in previous years, the Home Help Organiser continued to undertake much social work among elderly persons and maintained a very satisfactory liaison with the local officers of the National Assistance Board and with other statutory and voluntary organisations.

The following statistics for 1961 are of interest: —

Number of Occasional Home Helps employed during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	168
Number of Full-time Home Helps employed during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of Part-time Home Helps employed during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Total Number of householders provided with Home Helps	...	...	...	...	...	...	245
Number of Maternity Cases assisted by Home Helps	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Number of Tuberculous Cases assisted by Home Helps	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Number of Chronic Sick including aged and infirm assisted by Home Helps	...	...	...	...	...	...	158
Number of Home Visits by Home Help Organiser	...	...	...	...	...	...	1565

## 9. MENTAL HEALTH

The Community Care or Mental Health Section of the department, which was originally established at the beginning of 1960, made steady progress during 1961. It was decided not to prepare detailed plans of hostel provision for mentally disordered patients under the National Health Service Act until further experience of social work among these patients had been obtained. Special attention was given during the year to social work among mentally disordered patients and their relatives, development of the child guidance service, and the establishment of training facilities for severely subnormal and subnormal persons.

Further progress was made with the in-service training of staff in mental health work. The part-time mental welfare officers attended a course of lectures and discussions at St. David's Hospital, Carmarthen from the 17th January to the 7th March. The course was appreciated by the officers: subjects included the preparation of social histories, social work among mentally disordered patients, the subnormalities, and a general appreciation of the advances of modern treatment of psychiatric illnesses. As mentioned in this report, in-service training in mental health work was provided for groups of health visitors and district nurses at Tenby, Haverfordwest, and Milford Haven. In all, twenty-seven nurses attended in three groups and each group met for nine half-day sessions. Mr. Vittle, the Senior Psychiatric Social Worker, was the tutor for the latter training.

The department unfortunately lost the services of Mrs. J. M. B. Harries, the part-time Psychiatric Social Worker, by her resignation on the 27th March. Her post could not be filled as there is a national shortage of such workers. On the 31st May, Miss P. E. A. Porter, the Mental Health Visitor who specialised in the home visiting of subnormal and severely subnormal persons, resigned for health reasons. She was a very conscientious health visitor, and her premature resignation was regretted. It was decided to divide her duties among the district health visitors for a trial period pending the possible future recruitment of a social worker.

On the 6th June, the Senior Psychiatric Social Worker accepted responsibility for the social work at the Psychiatric Out-patient Clinic, held twice monthly, at the County Hospital, Haverfordwest. The attendances at these clinics are too high: sometimes

forty patients attend a half-day clinic. There is a definite need to increase the clinic sessions at Haverfordwest, and to provide a psychiatric out-patient clinic at the South Pembrokeshire Hospital, Pembroke Dock. The primary difficulty is the shortage of consultant psychiatrists in South-West Wales.

During the year, 147 mentally ill patients received after-care from the social workers of the staff; 48 of the patients were referred by the consultant psychiatrists on discharge from the mental hospitals; the remainder were referred from the psychiatric out-patients clinics, general practitioners and other sources such as the National Assistance Board.

Some progress was made in the preparation of social histories by mental welfare officers. These histories are helpful to the psychiatrists who treat the patients.

During the year, 172 mentally ill and 5 subnormal patients from this County were admitted informally for hospital treatment: 57 patients were admitted by compulsory order—55 of this latter group were emergency admissions under Section 29 of the Mental Health Act, 1959. It is expected that, when more consultant psychiatrists are available in South-West Wales, Sections 25 and 26 of the latter Act will be used more often for compulsory admissions.

It was possible to extend the Child Guidance Clinic service during the year. Dr. J. Macdonald commenced duty as Consultant Child Psychiatrist on the 1st July, and, with the assistance of Dr. N. James, he commenced weekly clinics at Haverfordwest on the 14th July. An increasing number of child patients were referred to these clinics: during 1961, 71 children attended for diagnosis and treatment—psychiatric or behaviour disorder in a child often requires prolonged treatment and a number of attendances by the child and parents. Mr. Vittle, the Senior Psychiatric Social Worker, was responsible for the social work associated with these clinics and, because of his other professional commitments, he had difficulty in devoting adequate time to this work.

There were a number of developments in the local training facilities for severely subnormal and subnormal persons. Mrs. Panton, the Occupational Therapist, who had been in charge of the group sessions in the previous year, resigned on the 30th April, 1961. It was then decided to appoint two home teachers for the mentally handicapped children and adults—one for the north of the County and the other for the south. These teachers would

become supervisors of training centres as soon as these could be established. Miss A. Jenkins was appointed to the post for the north of the County, and commenced duty on the 4th September: Mrs. Johnson was appointed to the other post, but could not commence duty until the beginning of 1962.

During the summer term, it was possible to maintain group training sessions for severely subnormal children at Haverfordwest and severely subnormal and subnormal adults at Haverfordwest and Tenby. Mrs. P. Davies acted as teacher at these sessions. On the 19th September, a part-time junior training centre (two days per week) was opened at the Red Cross Centre, Haverfordwest. Initially, ten children attended: Miss A. Jenkins was the supervisor. Unfortunately, the premises were too small, and lacked out-door playing space. The search for alternative temporary premises and for a site for a permanent purpose-built centre continued, but with no success in 1961. At the end of the year, forty-five severely subnormal children and subnormal and severely subnormal adults were receiving training in the County. Though some progress in this work was achieved, much remains to be done. At the end of the year, thirty-one subnormal and severely subnormal patients were awaiting admission to a hospital: twelve of these patients were considered to require urgent admission.

The routine testing of the urine of babies to detect the rare cases of phenyl-ketonuria—a metabolic defect which, unless limited with a special diet, leads to severe subnormality—was undertaken during 1961, but no new case was detected.



### SECTION 3

#### EPIDEMIOLOGY: INFECTIOUS AND OTHER COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

A feature of 1961 was a very extensive outbreak of measles. The epidemic commenced in February, reached its peak in April and May, gradually declined in June, July and August, and ended in October. A number of severe cases among children were reported. Unfortunately, three children—two girls aged 3 and 10 years, and one boy aged 4 years—died of post-infectious encephalitis following measles. This is a rare complication and there is no effective treatment.

There were four cases of paralytic poliomyelitis during the late summer months: three school-children—one a visitor from Bridgend, who developed the illness at St. Dogmaels, and the other two, brother and sister, were residents at Herbrandston, near Milford Haven—and one thirty-one year old man in the Hakin area. All had comparatively mild attacks: the first child had received part of a course of vaccine against the disease, but the other three patients had not received the vaccine.

Scarlet fever was prevalent in the Pembroke Borough area during the summer and autumn, but the illness was mild. Occasional cases of infectious hepatitis were reported in the Pembroke Borough and Milford Haven areas particularly in the first quarter of the year. There was no evidence that the infection resulted from blood or plasma transfusions or injections of prophylactic or therapeutic agents.

In November and December, there was an explosive local outbreak of acute respiratory infection, particularly among school children, which was proved to be due to the Influenza 'B' virus. The outbreak commenced almost simultaneously at Haverfordwest, St. Davids and Fishguard. Initially, the pupils at the grammar and secondary schools were particularly affected—attendances were reduced within a few days to as low as 25 to 35 per cent. Headteachers and experienced family doctors did not remember such an explosive and extensive outbreak of influenza. Fortunately, complications were few. The epidemic caused considerable dislocation in the schools and, in certain rural areas, the high incidence among farmers and their families led to temporary difficulties in the care of livestock.

Dr. H. D. S. Morgan, the Medical Director of the Public Health Laboratory at Carmarthen, kindly arranged the virological investigations.

The notifications of infectious diseases in the County in 1961 are listed in the following table: —

DISEASE			Haverfordwest M.B.	Tenby M.B.	Pembroke M.B.	Fishguard & Goodwick U.D.	Milford U.D.	Neyland U.D.	Narberth U.D.	Haverfordwest R.D.	Narberth R.D.	Pembroke R.D.	Cemaes R.D.	TOTALS
Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	2	112	1	6	3	—	4	1	6	2	137
Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	256	25	477	89	276	146	13	862	199	99	44	2486
Whooping Cough	...	...	2	—	17	5	—	—	—	3	15	1	2	45
Erysipelas	...	...	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	...	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	4
Acute Poliomyelitis Non-Paralytic	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post - Infectious Encephalitis	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	3
Acute Pneumonia (primary or influenzal)	...	...	1	—	28	—	—	1	—	8	—	3	3	44
Typhoid Fever	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
			261	27	637	95	283	150	14	879	215	110	53	2725

*Tuberculosis*

The following tables are of interest:—

NUMBER AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF NEW NOTIFICATIONS OF  
TUBERCULOSIS AND DEATHS FROM THIS DISEASE IN 1961

Age Group in years	New Notifications				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0— 1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 2 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2— 5 ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25 ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 ...	2	6	—	2	2	—	—	—
35—45 ...	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
45—55 ...	5	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
55—65 ...	3	2	—	—	3	1	—	—
65—75 ...	1	—	—	—	2	—	1	—
75 plus ...	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	1
Totals ...	15	11	1	2	12	2	1	1



NUMBER OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON THE CHEST  
CLINIC REGISTER

			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total
			M.	F.	M.	F.	
On 31st December, 1961	...	275	224	19	17		535
On 31st December, 1960	...	270	213	18	14		515
On 31st December, 1959	...	289	240	28	24		581

New Notifications of Tuberculosis			Deaths from Tuberculosis		
Non-			Non-		
Year	Respiratory	Respiratory	Respiratory	Respiratory	
1938	...	81	37	48	11
1939	...	88	27	43	12
1940	...	53	18	38	10
1941	...	64	22	26	14
1942	...	88	19	43	8
1943	...	63	32	22	1
1944	...	73	21	36	1
1945	...	73	24	32	5
1946	...	64	18	25	4
1947	...	68	14	36	3
1948	...	62	29	24	1
1949	...	73	18	41	1
1950	...	62	16	28	3
1951	...	66	9	26	9
1952	...	51	5	24	1
1953	...	63	6	22	6
1954	...	61	9	15	1
1955	...	35	7	14	3
1956	...	49	4	8	2
1957	...	36	4	11	1
1958	...	38	3	7	-
1959	...	26	1	8	3
1960	...	29	1	8	-
1961	...	26	3	14	2

## SECTION 4

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT:  
COUNTY COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

## 1. MILK

The County is an important dairy farming area. On the 1st July, 1954, it became an attested area, and, since the 1st October, 1958, only pasteurised or tuberculin tested milk has been sold except in a few small rural areas where ordinary milk retailers or producer-retailers are not available. Sterilized milk is not sold in the County. On the 31st December, 1961, there were 3,124 dairy farms in the County and approximately 3,050 were occupied by farmers licensed as tuberculin tested milk producers or producer-retailers.

The County Council has to enforce certain legislation relating to milk. Firstly, it has a responsibility to prevent the sale of milk from tuberculous animals and also from animals suffering from certain scheduled diseases. During 1961, sixteen samples of milk were submitted for biological testing, but all were free from tuberculous and brucella abortus infection. As the County Council does not employ a public health inspector these samples were kindly taken by district public health inspectors. Secondly, under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, the County Council has to licence all dealers in specially designated milk in the County, with the exception of producer-retailers. On the 31st December, 1961, the position in respect of licenses issued and in force was as follows: —

Type of Licence	No. of Licences issued and in force.			
Dealer's (Tuberculin Tested) ... ..	...	...	...	39
Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) ... ..	...	...	...	2
Dealer's (Steriliser's) ... ..	...	...	...	Nil
Dealer's (Pre-packed) ... ..	...	...	...	115

The supervision of the sale of designated milk by the licensed milk dealers is undertaken by the staff of the Weights and Measures Department but they have to rely on certain information, concerning the more difficult hygienic details especially of premises, from the district public health inspectors. Most of the milk sold by retail in the County has been pasteurised. There were, during 1961, two

milk pasteurisation plants in the County: the High Temperature Short Time (H.T.S.T.) type at the Dried Milk Products Dairy, Merlin's Bridge, Haverfordwest, and the batch pasteurisation plant (now converted to a H.T.S.T. plant) at Craig's Dairy, Tenby. Of the 433 samples of pasteurised milk tested, only three failed the phophatase test and fifteen the methylene blue test. Bottle washing machines require careful supervision and maintenance; twenty laboratory tests of the bacterial purity of the washed bottles were made: only one was unsatisfactory.

Finally, the County Council has a responsibility for enforcing legislation relating to the chemical quality and adulteration of milk. Action in this field during 1961 is described in the following paragraphs.

## 2. SAMPLING OF FOOD AND DRUGS

The Weights and Measures Inspectorate continued to undertake the sampling of food and drugs. Mr. D. C. Jenkins, M.Sc., F.R.I.C., of Carmarthen was the Public Analyst.

The following is a brief summary of the results of sampling during 1961: —

Article	No. of Samples	Genuine	Non- Genuine
Milk ... ..	365	331	34
Non-alcoholic drinks ...	27	20	7
Alcoholic drinks ...	3	3	—
Butter, Margarine and Cooking Fats ...	20	20	—
Tinned Meat and Fish	43	38	5
Spices and Condiments	2	2	—
Miscellaneous Groceries	158	150	8

The non-genuine samples of milk included twenty-eight of insufficient fat content and six of added water. The miscellaneous unsatisfactory samples included seven non-alcoholic drinks with insufficient fruit juice content, two tins of meat with inadequate meat content, two tins of fish with inadequate fish content, and two tins of fruit with insufficient fruit content,

*SECTION 5*

## MISCELLANEOUS

## CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

The necessary close liaison with the Children's Officer and his department was continued. Special attention was given to the medical and emotional problems of the children in the care of the County Council. In 1961, 53 examinations of such children were undertaken by doctors of the department. Arrangements were also made for the necessary immunisation procedures.

Miss S. M. Morgan, the health visitor, continued the detailed social work with fifteen difficult problem families in the County. Two families made no apparent response; the remainder fortunately showed various degrees of improvement. Without such social work, a number of the children of these latter families would have had to be taken into care. Other staff of the department, including certain health visitors, district nurses and home helps, assisted in the prevention of the break-up of families.

A close liaison was also maintained with the local N.S.P.C.C. Inspector.

## WELFARE DEPARTMENT

In accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 12/61, the local health authority services for old people and the co-operation with the Welfare department, voluntary organisations and housing authorities were reviewed during the year. The district nursing and home help services continued to make a considerable contribution to the care of the chronic sick patients and elderly frail persons in their own homes. The County Nursing Officer, Home Help Organiser and County Medical Officer of Health were members of the County Old People's Welfare Committee during 1961. It is pleasing to note the increased activities of the local Committees and the development of the visiting and chiropody services.

As in previous years, the easy transfer of patients between hospital and Part III accommodation was encouraged: in 1961, twenty-nine elderly patients were transferred from hospital to Part III accommodation and forty-three in the opposite direction. This arrangement was made possible by the co-operation of the County

Welfare Officer, the Hospital Almoner, the Matrons of Part III accommodation and the Medical, Nursing, and Administrative Staff of the local hospitals with chronic sick beds. The demands on both chronic sick and Part III beds continued to increase and, on occasions, especially during the winter months, there were waiting lists.

Dr. E. Roland Williams, an Ophthalmologist, continued to be responsible for the examination and certification of blind and partially sighted persons. The hospital ophthalmic services in South-West Wales have developed appreciably in recent years.

The following statistics are of interest: —

1. The age distribution of Registered Blind and Partially Sighted persons in the County on the 31st December, 1961, was as follows: —

			Blind	Partially Sighted
Under 5 years	...	...	—	—
5-16 years	...	...	5	4
16-21 years	...	...	2	5
21-50 years	...	...	42	21
50-65 years	...	...	61	31
65 years and over	...	...	241	87
Total			351	148

2. Follow-up of Registered Blind and Partially Sighted Persons:

		Cause of Disability			
		<i>Cataract</i>	<i>Glaucoma</i>	<i>Fibroplasia</i>	<i>Others</i>
(i) Number of cases registered during 1961 in respect of which Form B.D. 8 recommends:					
(a) No treatment	...	16	3	1	11
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical and optical	...	18	—	—	5
(ii) Number of cases as (i) above which on follow-up have received treatment					
	...	7	—	—	5



3. Ophthalmia Neonatorum: no cases of blindness due to this condition were reported during 1961.

#### MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF COUNTY STAFF

The following examinations were undertaken during 1961:—

Entrants (excluding teachers and police) to County Council employment	...	...	...	...	85
Manual Workers for entry into sickness benefit scheme					93
Police candidates	...	...	...	...	15
Police cadets	...	...	...	...	6
Entrants to Teachers' Training Colleges			...	...	72
Newly appointed Teachers	...	...	...	...	77
Canteen staff	...	...	...	...	74
Re-examinations of existing employees			...	...	16
Number of Chest X-ray examinations of staff (excluding mass radiography examinations)	...	...	...		43
Examinations carried out on behalf of other local authorities (reciprocal arrangement)			...	...	12

With the regular visits of the Mobile Unit of the Mass Radiography Service to the County, it was possible to continue the biennial chest X-ray scheme for school canteen staff.



